

## **THESIS STATEMENT**

### **A THESIS STATEMENT IS...**

1. your paper in a nutshell. It tells the reader what main idea you are going to develop. It also serves as a tool to help define, focus, and nail down exactly about what you want to write.
2. always a complete sentences.
3. never a question.
4. never an exclamation.
5. never merely a statement of intent. For example, "In this paper I..."
6. never an obvious statement which most people already know or with which they agrees. For example, "Walter Cronkite is the anchorman for CBS News," leaves the reader wondering, "So what?"
7. your opinion. It reflects your attitude or point of view toward your subject.
8. a promise to the reader to develop such-and-such an idea in such-and-such a manner.

### **TO WRITE A PRECISE THESIS STATEMENT, CONSIDER:**

What do I mean by that?

In what way?

How?

What am I getting at?

What do I want to make sure my readers know?

Why is this issue important to readers?